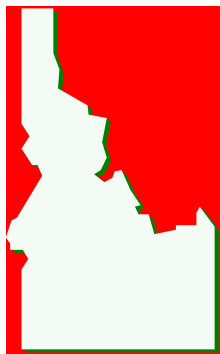


A statewide committee appointed by the Director of the Department of Health and Welfare "to provide counsel to the Department in administering the EMS Act"



Meeting Dates

- EMSAC, Dec 11, 2003
Ameritel Inn, 7499 W Overland Rd, Boise, ID
- EMSAC, Mar 18, 2004
Ameritel Inn, 7499 W Overland Rd, Boise, ID

**Call your regional EMS office for
Information**

Volume 10, Issue 15

Dec, 2003

IDAHO EMSAC News

The EMT-Intermediate (EMT-I) continued to be a central focus for EMSAC at the September meeting. Now that the tedious but essential task of defining a scope of practice has been accomplished, the advisory committee reviewed and approved draft rules related to the EMT-I. Existing EMS laws require rule promulgation to define criteria for training programs, certification of personnel, and agency licensure. While it has been a time consuming process for the EMT-I Task Force to brainstorm and reach consensus on these standards, this allows for a well-rounded foundation that

The EMS Bureau will circulate copies of the proposed rules to all licensed EMS agencies

provides the legal basis (and associated protections) for EMS agencies who will choose to migrate to the EMT-I level. Having the EMT-I rules in place is one of two remaining requirements necessary from a regulatory standpoint before EMT-I training programs can

begin.

The proposed rules must be published in the January 7, 2004 *Administrative Procedures Bulletin* which will be the start of the official public comment period necessary for the promulgation of rules. The EMS Bureau will circulate copies of the proposed rules to all licensed EMS agencies. The rules have the force of law once enacted, and they include the following provisions:

- EMT-I instructor and course requirements
- Agencies using Advanced EMT-As will continue to be licensed at the Intermediate level.
- Equipment standards for EMS agencies utilizing EMT-I personnel
- An EMS agency may have as little as one EMT-I.
- EMT-I certification length of two years

The second resource needed before EMT-I training programs can commence is the Idaho-specific curriculum and lesson plans. The Idaho State University Boise Center Paramedic Program will develop these under a contract with the EMS Bureau. Although the Task Force reviewed courses

taught in several other states, none were a perfect match for the desired scope of practice that was defined by Idaho EMS medical directors and EMS agency chief administrative officials and the EMT-I Task Force.

The EMS Bureau is also working with the Board of Medicine to set the stage for separate rule making detailing the scope of practice of the EMT-I and medical director requirements. These subjects are governed in different sections of the Idaho Administrative Code and are under the Board of Medicine's control. It is anticipated that the Board of Medicine will initiate their rules in the spring. It is important that the EMS Bureau be able to present its rules as

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EMT-I

Bureau Chief Dia Gainor began the September EMSAC meeting by presenting the EMS Bureau Mission, Vision and newly created six Core Values.

She began by explaining that in the weekly Quality Time meeting attended by EMS Bureau Program Coordinators, there had been several evaluation tools used, but it was discovered that there was not a common understanding of the values within the surveys they were holding up as a standard. The coordinators

agreed that core values defining a workplace standard for conduct motivates employees and would be valuable for orienting new employees. This led to further discussion about the meaning and possible uses for a defined set of EMS Bureau Core Values and eventually to the creation of these six core values:

We value communication

We value cooperation

We value accountability

We value trust and honesty

We value courage

We value leadership

approved by the state Legislature as well as the completed curriculum in order for the Board of Medicine to make this decision and legalize the practice of providers in between the existing Advanced EMT-A and EMT-Paramedic levels.

(Editor's Note: The EMT-I rules as endorsed by EMSAC were presented to the state Board of Health & Welfare on November 7, 2003. The Board voted unanimously to forward the rules for adoption by the 2004 Idaho Legislature.)

First Responder

Public Access

EMSAC Sub-Committee Reports

AIR MEDICAL

Revisions will be made to notification and rotation protocols for review at the December EMSAC.

EDUCATION

The Epinephrine Auto-Injector Program was reviewed. Eleven agencies have enrolled. The Patient Treatment Guidelines Project has been handed off to the new Provider Resources Program Specialist, Christian Gelok. A hard copy and CD will be published for all Idaho EMS agencies.

EMS-C

Dr. David Christensen reported that lack of safety seat or seatbelt use is the main cause of death in children ages 1-18 in Idaho. (50% above national rate). He advocates pursuing stricter enforcement and penalty for restraint violations.

Discussion about a Pediatric Education 5-Year Plan was initiated including pursuing a statewide pediatric training course, such as NAEMT PEPP. The committee also discussed the need

for a state medical director.

EMT-I TASK FORCE

See article on pg. 1

GRANTS

Dedicated Grants: \$1,190,479 was awarded to 74 EMS agencies. This included 14 vehicles (10 ambulances and 4 medical rescue trucks).

RAED Grant: (See related article on pg. 2). The first year funding of \$273,000 purchased 131 AED's. All AEDs have been delivered. An application for further funding was approved and will provide funds for a subsequent 3-year period, the first allotment of \$260,000 awarded in September, 2003. One of three focus groups, Fire, Law Enforcement and EMS will be targeted over the next 3-years. Community Partners defined in the grant application will be used to assist in defining recipients of the additional AED's.

Training Grants: The Grants Sub-Committee reviewed 78 Training Grant applications on November 13th. Requests totaled \$238,075. Available funds are \$90,500. Award determination has not yet been completed. \$2,500 per region will be used for instructor education or region specific

training needs.

LICENSURE

Nampa Fire was upgraded to ALS-Non-Transport pending inspection for compliance with minimum equipment standards and verification of minimum staffing.

Sagle Fire-ALS Transport was approved for reversion to ILS Non-transport due to operational changes within the fire district.

American Medical Response's 3 day provisional license was approved to provide EMS support at a bicycle race.

MEDICAL DIRECTION

This committee reviewed a survey to be sent to all Idaho EMS providers. The survey will ask providers to evaluate the current on line medical direction system so the committee can recommend realistic cost effective improvements, and serve as a resource to EMSAC regarding medical direction issues. Survey results will be reported to EMSAC in March. Also, the Medical Direction Guidelines are now complete.

EMSCAN KEY DATA 2000

Applications for software were sent to transport agencies and were due back by Nov. 28. More copies were requested than were available. You may apply for this software in the Dedicated Grants 2004 Application or contact your Regional Consultant if you are interested in purchasing a copy.

Revised PCR Instructions

Patient Care Report Instructions have been mailed to all agencies. These upgraded instructions provide direction for completion of the forms, both bubble dot and electronic. Required fields, definitions and detailed definitions together with a flow chart were mailed in hard copy and CD versions on November 21.

IMPORTANT POSTCARD ENCLOSED

Beginning with the March 2004 edition, hardcopy of the newsletter will be sent only to those who have responded by returning the self addressed stamped postcard to the EMS Bureau.

If you want to continue to receive hardcopy of the quarterly EMSAC newsletter, return this postcard with your name and current mailing address.

The EMSAC newsletters are available on the Idaho EMS Bureau website at <http://www.idahoems.org>. If you would like to receive an email notification when the latest version of the newsletter is available on the website, send an email addressed to martinLK@idhw.state.id.us with **EMSAC Newsletter** in the subject line.

Emergency Medical Services

P.O. Box 83720
Boise, ID 83720-0036

RETURN SERVICE REQUESTED



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